sound alternative for purifying urban sewage;

(b) whether the Central Government have accepted this claim and propose to adopt it on an All India scale insead of going for foreign technical collaboration in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the flaws in the above report?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The technology of sewage-fed aquaculture is location specific and its application at all India level has not yet been fully examined.

(c) In view of the facts stated above, question does not arise

Reviewing the working of Fair Price Shops

*365. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have asked the State Governments to review the working of fair price shops in each district, especially in the interior backward districts;

(b) whether the State Governments have reviewed the working of the fair price shops; and

(c) whether any report from the State Governments in this regard have been obtained by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Working of the Public Distribution system is under constant review of the Central Government. To make the system effective and achieve its basic objective, the Central Government has advised the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to open adequate number of fair price shops, particularly in rural areas to provide easy access to consumers, improve monitoring system, prepared district-wise plans for supply of Public Distribution System items to fair price shops, set up consumer advisory committees at various levels and tighten inspection and enforcement measures to ensure an effective delivery system at retail level. Reports received from State Governments indicate that they are reviewing the working of Public Distribution System in the light of suggestions given by the Central Government.

Production of Coconut

*366. SHRI C. HARIDAS:
SHRI L. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to declare coconut as oil seed, if so, when;

(b) what has been the production of coconut, Statewise, during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) what steps are being taken to bring more areas under coconut cultivation in each State during the Seventh Five Year Plan Period;

(d) whether Government propose to fix any standing price for coconut to avoid fall in its prices; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of Government of India to declare coconut as oilseed at present.

(b) State-wise, year-wise production figures of Coconut for the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 are in the Statement.

(c) For accelerated development of coconut cultivation Government of India have set up the Coconut Development Board which are implementing the following projects to bring more area under coconut cultivation:—

(i) Project for expansion of area under coconut.

(ii) Project for coconut plantation on canal embankment in Orissa; and

(iii) Coconut plantation in Khas land in Tripura. Moreover, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Package Programme on Coconut, funds are being provided to the States for production and distribution of high quality disease-free seedlings and demonstration. In Kerala, under the World Bank assisted Kerala Agricultural Development Project, expansion of area under coconut and rejuvenation of old coconut plantation are being taken up. Under this Project, 6521 hectares have been newly planted and 19257 hectares of coconut plantation have been rehabilitated.

(d) and (e) A proposal for market intervention in Copra is under consideration of Government of India.

Statement

(Production in million nuts)

State	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Andhra Pradesh	178·9	184·9	192·4
Assam	45·9	45·9	47·9
Karnataka	917·6	950·3	966·5
Kerala	3005·7	3184·0	2694·7
Maharashtra	61·1	61·1	61·1
Orissa	98 8	97·9	97·9
Tamil Nadu	1019·2	1434·6	1402·2
Tripura	1·7	1·7	1·7
West Bengal	29·4	157·4	167·7
A & N Islands	87·0	96·6	96·6
Goa, Daman & Diu	91·0	105·5	106·0
Pondicherry	15·4	14·4	14·1
Lakshdweep	21·7	21·8	22·2
All India	5573·4	6356·1	5871·0

Damage to Cotton Crop in Andhra Pradesh

†*367. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the spread of "White fly" the cotton crop was considerably damaged in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1984;

(b) if so, the quantum of crop so damaged;

(c) whether it is a fact that the "White Flies" are spreading this year also and damaging the cotton crop in large areas in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, what measures the Central Government propose to take to provide

†Previously Starred Question 307, transferred from the 10th December, 1985.